

## Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/857,669

Applicant(s)

RUELLE, JEAN-LOUIS

Examiner

Padmavathi v Baskar

Art Unit

1645

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/20/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 55-59, 61, 63 -68 and 69 have been renumbered as 1-13 respectively..
3. ☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  - \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
  - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the Examiner.
  - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                    | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____.   |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No. _____  | 7 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment         |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|  | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other   |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's amendment filed on 10/20/03 is acknowledged. Claims 55-59, 61, 64, 66-68 have been amended. New claim 69 has been added. Claims 55-59, 61, 63 -68 and 69 are pending in the application.
2. In view of amendment to the claims and arguments of record, the rejection of claims 55-59, 61 and 63 -68 under 35U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, written description is withdrawn.
3. In view of amendment to the claims and arguments of record, the rejection of claims 55-59, 61 and 63 -68 under 35U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, scope of enablement is withdrawn.
4. In view of amendment to the claims and arguments of record, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Martin et al 1997 (J.Ex.Med. Volume 185, 1173-1184) is withdrawn for claims 55, 56 and 61, as Martin et al do not disclose an isolated recombinant polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence SEQ.ID.NO: 2.
5. In view of amendment to the claims and arguments of record, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martin et al 1997 (J.Ex.Med. Volume 185, 1173-1184) in view of Prieels et al is withdrawn.
6. The instant claims define a novel recombinant polypeptide comprising the polypeptide SEQ.ID.NO: 2 from *Neisseria meningitidis*. This polypeptide has been shown to bind to sera obtained from patients infected with various clinical isolates and is useful for diagnostic assays for detecting the infection caused by various clinical strains of *Neisseria meningitidis*.
7. Claims 55-59, 61, 63 -68 and 69 have been renumbered as 1-13 respectively.
8. The corrected drawings 3/24/03 have been accepted by the Draft's person.
9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Padma Baskar Ph.D. whose telephone number is (703) 308-8886. The

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examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 6:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. EST

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynette Smith can be reached on (703) 308-3909. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872 -9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1235.

Padma Baskar Ph.D.

1/4/04

  
LYNETTE R. E. SMITH  
SUPERVISORY  
TECHNOLOGICAL CENTER